



BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH

PAKISTAN

Major General Hamid GUL

January 1989

(U) NAME: Major General (MG) Hamid Gul, Pakistan Army (PA 5645).

(U) POSITION: Director General, Interservices Intelligence Directorate (DISI) Pakistan Army Headquarters since March 1987. MG Gul succeeded LTG Akhtar.

SIGNIFICANCE: As Director General of the Interservices Intelligence Directorate (ISID) MG Gul is the senior intelligence officer in the Pakistan armed services.

Photo Request Pending

The DISI is the official contact point between visiting foreign military and all Pakistani military personnel and also the official contact point for foreign military attaches in Pakistan.

General Gul has taken an active role in organizing the unruly Afghan Alliance Leaders into a viable institution.

He is a powerful mediator with significant influence in settling intra-alliance bickering.

Gul is characterized by these leaders as being in strong contrast to his predecessor, and as a sincere and caring individual who is attempting to do what is best for the Afghan Alliance as well as for Pakistan.

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The position of DISI is analogous to that of the Director, US Defense Intelligence Agency.

POLITICS: General Gul, a strong supporter of Pakistan's ties to the US, is generally friendly towards the US and the West and very comfortable with foreigners.

Gul is not believed to have any particular political contacts of any significance within Pakistan.

PERSONAL DATA: Gul was born on 14 March 1932 in Sargodha, Pakistan. He stands about 5'10" and weighs about 160 lbs. He wears a mustache and is in generally good health, with medium build and very military posture. He is a practicing moslem (Sunni sect) and is reported to be "a real fire-breather" on religious matters; however, he does smoke and drink in moderation. His religious practice does not appear to affect his political views. His wife's name is Afsar Shehnaz, they have one son and two daughters. He is fluent in three languages, English, Urdu, and Punjabi. Gul is a cheerful, ambitious officer, who has a very professional outlook. He gives the impression of being fairly self-sufficient and the sort of person who does not need close friends. He is described as "being rather a lone wolf", a very hard worker, an intelligent man with plenty of common sense, and also as having a dry sense of humor.

CAREER: Gul was commissioned in the armor corps on 19 October 1958.

In 1985 General Gul led a Pakistan Army delegation to the US and Germany to study armed helicopter

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employment. Prior to his selection for his current assignment, Gul was General Officer Commanding, 1st Armored Division.

